

Spring 1980

Center Green Human translated by Marcel Smith

Alfredo Barrera Vasquez

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/cutbank>



Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Recommended Citation

Vasquez, Alfredo Barrera (1980) "Center Green Human translated by Marcel Smith," *CutBank*: Vol. 1 : Iss. 14 , Article 54.

Available at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/cutbank/vol1/iss14/54>

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in CutBank by an authorized editor of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact scholarworks@mso.umt.edu.

CENTER GREEN HUMAN

Cross of the Winds, here I am
in the emerald locket
of your very heart.

I am the center of all creation.
Wherever I may ever go
I am the world's hope.
Wherever fate tosses me
I turn in green.

I am your rejoicing, Life:
my dancing, hopeful festival
at the hub of the four roads,
sings out the color I turn in
with the jade's happy voice
and the lucky lizard,
the maize jewel.
My dance wavers with the green rhythm
of the quetzal-snake,
soul of maize.

The juices of my being,
precious liquors,
are tears out of the God of the Cross
in whose center, green heart of the world,
the emerald cottonwood
raises up her mother-being
and I make myself at one with her.

Coati, come on, climb on my shoulders
and tango along the cross of my arms
while I whirl in the green.

And come on, you monkeys, germinal ancestors,
tootle your woodflutes
and dance along with me.

*translated by
Marcel Smith*